

CLAIMS

1-7. (*canceled*)

1 8. (*currently amended*) A method comprising the steps of:
2 introducing sample liquid into a reaction cell having a
3 hybridization probe array so that some interior volume is partially
4 occupied by sample liquid and partially occupied by gas;
5 centrifuging said sample liquid by rotating said reaction cell
6 about a centrifugation axis so that centrifugal force in excess of 1G
7 urges said sample liquid against said array; and
8 agitating said sample liquid in said reaction cell during said
9 centrifuging by rotating said reaction cell about an agitation axis
10 distinct from said centrifugation axis ~~that, wherein said agitation~~
11 axis is more orthogonal to than along said centrifugal force so that
12 said sample liquid moves relative to said array.

9. (*canceled*)

1 10. (*previously presented*) A method as recited in Claim 8
2 wherein said agitating involves periodically changing the direction
3 of rotation about said agitation axis so as to define an agitation
4 cycle rate.

1 11. (*previously presented*) A method as recited in Claim 10
2 wherein said centrifuging involves rotating said reaction cell during
3 said agitating at a centrifuge rate greater than said agitation rate.

12. (*canceled*)

13. (*canceled*)

1 14. (*previously presented*) A method as recited in Claim 8
2 further comprising a step of removing sample liquid from said
3 reaction cell, said removing step involving rotating said reaction cell
4 about said agitation axis so that said centrifugal force urges said
5 fluid in said reaction cell away from said array.

1 15. (*previously presented*) A method as recited in Claim 8
2 wherein said sample liquid occupies at most half of said interior
3 volume during said centrifuging and agitating.

16-25. (*canceled*)